We claim:

1. A method of avoiding hyperphosphatemia while treating a patient having a kidney disorder comprising administering to said patent a vitamin D compound that has a minimal effect on serum phosphorus of said patient.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said kidney disorder is uremia.

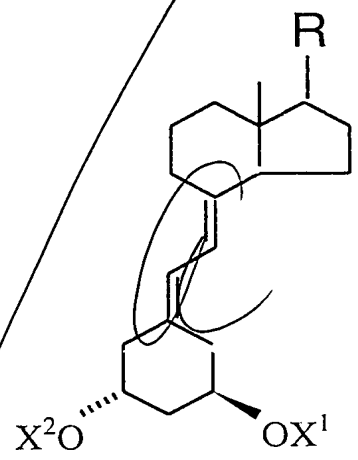
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said kidney disorder is renal failure.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said vitamin D compound is administered together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said vitamin D compound is in a solid or liquid vehicle ingestible by and non-toxic to the patient.

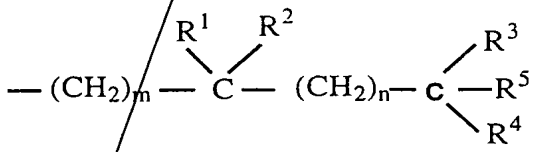
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said vitamin D compound is a 19-nor-vitamin D compound.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said 19-nor-vitamin D compound has the formula:



where X^1 and X^2 each represent, independently, hydrogen or a hydroxy-protecting group, and where R is represented by the structure below:

where the stereochemical center may have the R or S configuration, and where Z is selected from Y, -OY, $-CH_2OY$, $-C \equiv CY$ and $-CH = CHY$, where the double bond may have the cis or trans geometry, and where Y is selected from hydrogen, methyl, $-CR^5O$ and a radical of the structure.



where m and n, independently, represent integers from 0 to 5, where R^1 is selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, fluoro, trifluoromethyl, and C_{1-5}- alkyl, which may be straight chain or branched and, optionally, bear a hydroxy or protected-hydroxy substituent, and where each of R^2, R^3, and R^4, independently, is selected from hydrogen, fluoro, trifluoromethyl and C_{1-5} alkyl, which may be straight-chain or branched, and optionally, bear a hydroxy or protected-hydroxy substituent, and where R^1 and R^2, taken together represent an oxo group, or an alkylidene group, $=CR^2R^3$, or the group $-(CH_2)_p-$, where p is an integer from 2 to 5, and where R^3 and R^4, taken together, represent an oxo group, or a group $-(CH_2)_q-$, where q is an integer from 2 to 5, where R^5 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, or C_{1-5} alkyl, and where any of the groups at positions 20, 22 and 23, respectively in the side chain may be replaced by an oxygen atom.

8. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α,25-dihydroxy-19-nor-vitamin D_3.

9. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α-hydroxy-19-nor-vitamin D_3.

10. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α,25-dihydroxy-19-nor-vitamin D_2.

11. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α-hydroxy-19-nor-vitamin D_2.

12. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α-hydroxy-19-nor-24-epi-vitamin D_2.

13. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is 1α,25-dihydroxy-19-nor-24-epi-vitamin D_2.

14. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is administered orally.

15. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is administered parenterally.

16. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is administered topically.

17. The method of claim 1 where the said vitamin D compound is administered in an amount from 1 μg to about 500 μg per day to the patient.

Add A27